**The Role of Geography:**

Use the activity of creating a country so students are able to apply geographic understanding across a broad range of fields, including the fine arts, sciences, and humanities. Geographic concepts become central to learners' comprehension of global connections as they expand their knowledge of diverse cultures, both historical and contemporary.

**Objective:**

To be able to understand and analyze the development of a nation and what it consists of. By developing their own nation students can see the interrelated elements that affect every aspect of a country’s development.

**Class Discussion: (3-5 minutes**)

Is the geography of a country important to its development?

How can the geography of a country affect and influence the arts? Sciences?

Would this impact the culture of a country? World relationships?

**Intro: what we are doing and why? (2 minutes)**

**Guided Student Activity: (12 – 15 minutes)**

Students get to brainstorm, as a class, what would go into creating a new country.

Then students will write down their ideas about the nation they want to create

1 – Location

2- Size

3- Climate

4-What type of boundaries does your country have

5- What is the Name of your Country?

Draw an outline of your Country based on this information

What is next? Build a city?

1. Are there any large bodies of water?
2. Name and describe any rivers located in your country
3. Mountains? Describe & name them if they are in your country

**Closure: (2 minutes)**

The current notion of state sovereignty was laid down at the Treaty of Westphalia (Peace of Westphalia) ->1648 This ended the 30 years war in the Holy Roman Empire And the 80 years war between Spain and the Dutch Republic. Any guesses as to what may have played a role in those wars based on what we are doing today? These were wars that involved boundaries, borders, and the idea of sovereignty…they involved territory…any potential conflicts in your countries future based on these ideas?